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FORTUNES WASHED AWAY

"THE GRAND TRAVERSE REGION
-- AMERICA'S CHERRYLAND"

Broadcast No. 4 in the third year
in a series of dramatizations
of better land use

WLW, Cincinnati

May 18, 1940

1:15-1:30 pm.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
DAYTON, OHIO

SOUND: Thunder and rain...

ANNOUNCER

Fortunes Washed Away!

ORGAN THEME: I GET THE BLUES WHEN IT RAINS.

ANNOUNCER

The warm breath of springtime has reached the upper tip of Michigan, and few spots are now so lovely as the Grand Traverse region. The trees are breaking into tender green, the orchards are a living blanket of white and pink and red. Here is a brilliant living kaleidoscope of forests and lakes, majestic sand dunes and miles of orchards, snowy beaches and winding trails, white-winged sailing craft and leaping game fish. The Indians called the great peninsula "leelanau", meaning "land of delight." The French settlers cruising out of Mackinac called the bay "La Grande Traverse" or "great crossing".

ORGAN: IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN IN CHERRY BLOSSOM LANE, fading....

ANNOUNCER

Proud citizens of Grand Traverse county call it "cherryland", for here is a region famed for its sweet cherries, its red tart cherries. The entire region is one great fruit bowl. One proud citizen is the noted writer, Harold Titus, who will tell you about the Grand Traverse region.....

BILLY

Uncle Harold, tell me a story.

TITUS

A story, Billy. What kind of a story?

BILLY

Oh, just any kind. You tell awful good stories.

TITUS

Have you been a good boy lately?

1875

1875

1875

1875

1875

1875

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1875

1875

BILLY

Yes sir, awful good. I went to Sunday School, and I did just what Mother told me to, and....

TITUS

....and washed behind your ears?

BILLY

Yes sir, real hard, too.

TITUS (laughing)

All right, Billy. Climb up here on this old armchair, and I'll tell you a story....have you ever seen the Sleeping Bear sand dune over on the shore by Lake Michigan?

BILLY

Yes, father showed it to me one time.

TITUS

Do you know how it got its name?

BILLY

Sure, because it looks like a big sleeping bear.

TITUS

There's more to it than that. Long, long ago, so an Indian legend goes, a mother bear and her two cubs were driven out into Lake Michigan by a great forest fire on the other side of the lake. They swam, and they swam until they were almost to the Michigan shore. But the poor little cubs couldn't quite reach it. They were tired, and they sank and drowned.

BILLY

Oh, gee.....

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem.

The second part is devoted to a detailed analysis of the results.

The third part is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions.

The fourth part is devoted to a discussion of the future work.

The fifth part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

The sixth part is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions.

The seventh part is devoted to a discussion of the future work.

The eighth part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

The ninth part is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions.

The tenth part is devoted to a discussion of the future work.

The eleventh part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

The twelfth part is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions.

The thirteenth part is devoted to a discussion of the future work.

The fourteenth part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

The fifteenth part is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions.

The sixteenth part is devoted to a discussion of the future work.

The seventeenth part is devoted to a discussion of the results.

The eighteenth part is devoted to a discussion of the conclusions.

The nineteenth part is devoted to a discussion of the future work.

TITUS

The mother bear swam around over them until she, too, was all tired out, then she climbed out on the beach to rest. When she waked, she found that during the night the Great Manitou -- that's what the Indians called God -- had raised two small islands in the lake where her cubs had drowned. And the mother bear sank into sleep again, where she would be close to her babies. So now, you can still see the Sleeping Bear Dune, and the sleeping bear, great head lying on its outstretched paws, in the wind-twisted trees and undergrowth. And the two cubs, we now know as North and South Manitou islands.

BILLY

Gee, that's a swell story, Uncle Harold...but kinda sad. But I like to hear stories about this country. It's pretty, isn't it?

TITUS

Yes, it's a remarkable country...this land around Traverse Bay. A great farming country.

BILLY

Were all of the farmers like you and Uncle Leon?

TITUS

Oh, my no. You see, the first farmers were lumberjacks. They tried to cut down on the high cost of living...yes, they had high prices in those days, too.....by growing their own potatoes and grain for their horses.

BILLY

And so everybody started to become farmers, huh?

TITUS

Not all at once, Billy. In the year 1859, I think it was, Horace Greeley, a famous New York newspaper man wrote about the northern half of the peninsula. He said it was cold and uninviting to the farmer....that it had swamps, sterile gravelly knolls, and dense forests that had very poor timber.

BILLY

I'll bet that made people mad.

TITUS

I expect so. But that same year the Grand Traverse newspaper began to publish notices about apples grown by a Reverend Smith, and other apples from the orchard of John Garland, and peaches grown by Mr. Norris.

BILLY

Didn't they grow any cherries then, Uncle Harold?

TITUS

They came later. In 1865, the state geologist made a study of the Grand Traverse region, and he said that the land was plenty good for agriculture, especially fruit. In fact, he said "as a fruit-growing region it is doubtful whether any other part of the United States could compete with it. Well, farming here has gone a long, long way since that time. Let me tell you about Roy Hooper. He was talking to the country agent, Carl Hemstroet, a few years ago..
..(fade).

HOOPER (fading in) .

I'm mighty glad you came out, Carl. I've been wanting to talk over my farm with you.

HEMSTREET

Well, I'll be glad to help you any way I can.

HOOPER

Here's the situation. I've been having some trouble with soil erosion on the steeper slopes, even though I've been using a winter cover crop. Look at those trees over there -- some of them look like they're standing on their toes, so to speak.

HEMSTREET

I can tell you're losing a lot of soil. Why don't you take a tip from Walter Goble?

HOOPER

What way do you mean?

HEMSTREET

A few years ago he was having the same trouble with his orchards that you are. He saw he was losing his soil. He also found out that it took a lot of power and time to work his orchard up and down hill. So...he quit working up and down hill.

HOOPER

Oh, I get it....you mean....

HEMSTREET

I'd suggest that you work your orchard across the slope. When you plant new trees, plant them on the contour, and leave a good sod strip in the middles.

HOOPER

Hold on there, Carl! I've heard too many people say that you can't grow cherries in sod. Why, we've been taking pains to keep all vegetation out of the orchards.

HEMSTREET

There's where you're wrong. They've made studies on this subject at the experiment station at Grand Rapids, and found out different. Then farmers like Leslie Jamieson, Homer Willobee, and Ray Heller... I don't know who all....are growing cherries on sod. Of course, they use mulch and a lot of fertilizer. You see, we're gradually changing our notions about orchard management.

HOOPER

Well, I'll take your word for it, but I'm kinda leery about it. I can get the sod seeded all right, but out here on the Peninsula where we grow a lot of fruit, mulch material is mighty scarce. How would it be if I used corn stalks as a mulch?

HEMSTREET

Oh, that isn't the best, probably, but it certainly would be effective.

HOOPER

All right, Carl. You've never let me down before, and I'll take you at your word. Yeah, I think I'll try cultivating on the contour. I don't want anyone to ever say that Roy Hooper wasn't a conservation farmer....(fade).

TITUS

And there you are, Billy....a story of modern farming. It's a true story, too...not just a legend. (chuckles). What's this? Why, he's sound asleep.

ORGAN: IT LOOKS LIKE RAIN IN CHERRY BLOSSOM LANE.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a

discussion of the general principles of the

theory of the subject, and to a

description of the various methods of

investigation which have been employed

in the study of the subject.

2. The second part of the paper is devoted to a

description of the

various

methods of

investigation which have been employed

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investigation

which have been employed in the

TITUS

Maybe Uncle Harold's story about how one more man became a conservation farmer is just a little heavy for a curly-headed lad. You just go ahead and sleep, young fellow. But when you grow up, you'll be mighty, mighty thankful that the farmers in the Grand Traverse region are learning to save their soil. You see, son, they're saving it for you, and for the other generations that are to come along some day.

ORGAN: UP AND OUT.

ANNOUNCER

That is the story of the Grand Traverse region, one more region to adopt common-sense, conservation farming methods. And now, once again we turn to the Soil Conservation Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, and here is Ewing Jones.

JONES

Thanks, _____. Let me add one or two more words about Grand Traverse County. I don't want to give the impression that cherry production is the chief agricultural pursuit -- although the county ranks second in the United States in the production of red tart cherries. It's 1,800 farms grow a great variety of products. Radish seed, honey, fresh vegetables, livestock -- the three major crops being cherries, potatoes, and alfalfa. Potatoes is the major field cash crop. But getting back to growing fruit on the contour, it's a little late now for farmers to set out their new orchards, but they ought to be interested in what's been going on along that line. Here is R. H. Morrish, who heads up the agronomic work of the Soil Conservation Service in the Ohio Valley Region, who ought to be able to give us that information. How about it, Hipe?

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MORRISH

Well, Ewing, if we can judge by the interest farmers have shown in contour cultivation this spring, a good many of them have adopted tillage methods that would have shocked their forefathers. I returned from Berrien County, Michigan, the other day, and frankly, I was amazed at the way this type of cultivation is spreading.

JONES

And what would you say is the reason?

MORRISH

You've got to remember that contour tillage is one of the fundamental soil-saving measures for any sloping land. Farmers who have changed from the old up-and-down hill cultivation to farming "on the level", you might say, know that contour tillage not only saves soil and moisture, but it is easier on the team or tractor, and in addition it frequently increases yields. We just had a report from Illinois, where E. W. Bruggeman had been running some experiments. He found that contour farming produced a 13 percent greater corn yield than did straight up-and-down slope planting.

JONES

Now, Hipe, how about contour planting of orchards? I know that men in the Traverse City region are sold on this practice, but is that generally true?

MORRISH

It's becoming more and more so, Ewing. Take the Berrien County demonstration area of the Soil Conservation Service. One of the reasons why contour tillage is so popular there is because the farmers have seen the success of Fred Carter's on-the-level cultivation. He is farming his truck crops and fruit on the contour, using sod buffer strips in the orchard. He admits that he didn't think he could grow truck on the contour. He thought it would injure his vines, and he wouldn't be able to keep out weeds. But he's well satisfied now, and he says he won't be bothered with soil erosion any more.

JONES

Well, I've seen small orchards set out on the level, and it doesn't look as if the farmers have any trouble with them, either in cultivating or in spraying.

MORRISH

That's true of the larger orchards, too. Michigan's largest job of contouring, so far as I know, is a new 60-acre apple orchard on a farm owned by L. W. Ricketts, in Macomb County, Michigan. It's the first demonstration of its kind in the county, and it was worked out, as a demonstration of what can be accomplished, through the cooperative efforts of County Agent Bill Murphy, and Don Hootman and George Amundson from the extension staff of Michigan State College.

JONES

Sixty acres is a pretty good sized orchard, Hipe. With all of this trend toward farming on the level, it's really too bad that other farmers will have to wait until next year to set out their new trees in that fashion. Of course, they can be making their plans now.

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[illegible][illegible]

MORRISH

It isn't too late to take care of the old plantings, Ewing. A great deal of our soil losses are caused by bare fields in the summer. Too many farmers try to keep the orchard middles clean of all vegetation, which is just the wrong thing to do. We know, now, that fruit trees can be grown with sod successfully. On gentle slopes, maybe a sod strip in every-other row will be sufficient. The important thing is, keep the land covered as much as possible, with sod, mulch, or some type of summer cover.

JONES

That's a timely suggestion, and thanks a lot for it, R. H. Morrish, regional agronomist of the Soil Conservation Service. And, _____, here's a timely tip that you might pass on to our farm friends.

ANNOUNCER

All right, Ewing, I'll be glad to -- that is, if I can read your handwriting. Let's see...what's that first word?

JONES

It's something you probably don't know much about...saving. And the rest of it....Saving Soil With Sod.

ANNOUNCER

Oh, now I get it! Saving Soil With Sod. It's that big pasture bulletin -- telling all about pastures and meadows.

JONES

That's the one -- with pictures and everything.

ANNOUNCER

I can make out the rest of it now: If you would like a copy of the illustrated bulletin on pastures, send a letter or a penny postcard to Soil Conservation, Dayton, Ohio.

10/10/10

I have been thinking about you a great deal lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I always find time to think of my friends. I am sure you are doing well. I have been thinking about you a great deal lately, and wondering how you are getting on. I hope you are well and happy. I have been very busy lately, but I always find time to think of my friends. I am sure you are doing well.

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SOUND: Telegraph key clicking...

ANNOUNCER News in the conservation world!

JONES

Here's news from Oklahoma: After thirty years, Bermuda grass is about to come into its own. Bermuda was feared and hated by all crop farmers when it first appeared in the South. As a matter of fact, some farmers without livestock still are a little skeptical. But with so much of our soil washed away and with a shift in interest from row crops to livestock, land owners are planting Bermuda as fast as they can get it. In all the soil conservation districts, the CCC boys and the WPA labor groups have more requests for Bermuda planting than they can get to.

AD LIB PRESENTATION OF CHERRIES.

ORGAN: STEAMBOAT BILL.

SOUND: Blasts of steamboat whistle....

SAILOR

Captain! Captain! Man overboard!

CAPTAIN

What's this?

SAILOR

Yessir! He fell in the river...right over there!

CAPTAIN

Come on. We'll save him yet. Man the lifeboat!

SAILOR

There he is, captain. You won't need the boats. I can reach him with this rope.

CAPTAIN

Hurry then!

SAILOR (shouting)

Here you are! Catch this rope! There!

18. The following table shows the number of people who attended the concert in each of the five years from 1990 to 1994.

1. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 2. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 3. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 4. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 5. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 6. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 7. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 8. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 9. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.
 10. *Phragmites australis* (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.

[illegible][illegible]

CAPTAIN

He's got it. Come on, pull now. Pull! Heave ho! Up he goes!
There!

MAN (gasping)

You saved me...but I lost my most precious possession.

CAPTAIN

Too bad, poor fellow. What was it, if I may ask, that was so valuable.

MAN

Oh, I've lost it...my precious bulletin, Saving Soil With Sod.

CAPTAIN

Cheer up! You've nothing to worry about. Lieutenant _____
here can tell you where to get another copy.

ANNOUNCER

Aye, Aye, my good man. If you would like a copy of the illustrated
bulletin on pastures and meadows, write to Soil Conservation,
Dayton, Ohio.

ORGAN THEME: I GET THE BLUES WHEN IT RAINS.

#

3087-St.

12-23

Dear Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst. in relation to the above matter.

I am sorry to hear that you are having trouble with your machine. I will try to get it fixed as soon as possible.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. H. Smith